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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of,	:	
Ashok Rao et al.	:	
Application No. 10/541,973	:	DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: April 18, 2006	:	TO WITHDRAW
Attorney Docket No. 100325.0199US	:	FROM RECORD
	:	

This is a decision on the Request to Withdraw as attorney or agent of record under 37 C.F.R. § 1.36(b), filed August 11, 2008.

The request is **NOT APPROVED**.

A grantable request to withdraw as attorney/agent of record must be signed by every attorney/agent seeking to withdraw or contain a clear indication that one attorney is signing on behalf of another/others. The Office requires the practitioner(s) requesting withdrawal to certify that he, she, or they have: (1) given reasonable notice to the client, prior to the expiration of the response period, that the practitioner(s) intends to withdraw from employment; (2) delivered to the client or a duly authorized representative of the client all papers and property (including funds) to which the client is entitled; and (3) notified the client of any responses that may be due and the time frame within which the client must respond, pursuant 37 CFR 10.40(c).

The request cannot be approved because there is no indication that the acts noted in the above-identified certifications have been performed. Refer to Form No. PTO/SB/83 (Updated 4/2008).

The Office cannot further approve the request at this time since the reasons provided do not meet any of the conditions under the mandatory or permissive categories enumerated in 37 CFR 10.40. Section 10.40 of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulation states, “[a] practitioner shall not withdraw from employment in a proceeding before the Office without permission from the Office[.]” More specifically, 37 CFR 10.40 states, “[i]f paragraph (b) of this section is not applicable, a practitioner may not request permission to withdraw in matter pending before the Office unless such request or such withdrawal is” for one the permissive reasons listed in 37 CFR 10.40(c).

All future communications from the Office will continue to be directed to the above-listed address until otherwise notified by applicant.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at 571-272-6735.

*Kimberly Inabinet*  
Kimberly Inabinet  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions

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